



EXPRESS MAIL NO.: EL 451 598 487 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Chang, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/465,491

Filed: December 16, 1999

For: QUANTITATION OF hTERT mRNA  
EXPRESSION

Group Art Unit: 1634

Examiner: Goldberg, J.

Attorney Docket No.: RPA 1002

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants have carefully considered the non-final Office Action, mailed March 27, 2002, in connection with the above-captioned application. Reconsideration of the claims in light of the amendments and remarks that follow is respectfully requested. Enclosed herewith are Exhibit A (Claim Amendments: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made) and Exhibit B (Claim Amendments: Pending Claims After Entry of Instant Amendments), Petition for an Extension of Time extending the period for response by three (3) months to, and including September 27, 2002, and a Fee Transmittal Sheet.

AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 34.

Please amend Claims 21, 28-33 and 38-43 to read as follows:

**DI** 21.

(Twice amended) A method for identifying the presence of cancerous cells in a human sample wherein said method comprises:  
(a) determining the quantity of hTERT mRNA comprising  $\beta$ -region coding sequence in said sample and in a control sample of non cancerous cells by: